

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Korea	REPORT	
SUBJECT	1. Reconstruction and Soviet Bloc Assistance 2. Agricultural Progress	DATE DISTR.	30 November 1954
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	1
PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT	
		REFERENCES	

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1. Construction materials from the Soviet bloc are steadily pouring into North Korea by railroad. In Manpojin and Sinuiju carloads of cement, girders, sections of steel bridging (East German material stenciled "Gieserei Halle"), and crates of Swiss industrial machinery are to be seen. The USSR and East Germany are supplying industrial equipment, while Czechoslovakia is delivering trucks and busses. In Ch'ongjin a Czechoslovak mission has installed a 400-bed hospital in a building constructed by the Japanese. The mission consists of 60 persons, including 12 doctors.¹
2. The metallurgical and chemical plants at Ch'ongjin and Hungnam, which were destroyed during the war, are resuming production very slowly. Only small segments of the mills are currently in operation. 25X1
3. First priority is given to the rebuilding of theaters, halls for "cultural exhibits," railroad stations, and military barracks. The reconstruction of schools and hospitals will come later. The general shortage of housing is still great. The rebuilding of private homes is apparently being left to the initiative of the population, which is destitute. 25X1
4. No fallow land was observed in North Korea in September. The North Koreans are acclaiming the results achieved from new methods of rice cultivation, including the use of small mechanical cultivators.

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